A note about the title of this one-shot:

The Japanese title of this story is "Vitaashiiku." It is written only in katakana, with no indications given as to the meaning. There are any number of plausible interpretations: "Bitter Sick," "Bitter Chic," "Bitter Sec[ret]," "Vita Seek," "Vita Chic," "Wieder Seek," and so on. Beginning the title with "V" rather than "B" ("bitter" is generally written as "bitaa," not "vitaa") may be a nod to Venus, the goddess of beauty, as "goddess" is a concept that features strongly in this work.

We have chosen "Bitter Seek" for the English title because we feel it most closely fits the work, but we encourage readers to form their own conclusions.

Bitter Seek

Lililicious

A fated moment with

the goddess who

captured my attention.

Honorable Mention in the Shoujo Manga Division of the Ichijinsha Comics Awards

Bitter Seek

A striking debut from a promising newcomer!!

Oikawa Jinko

Morning!

NOPE!! WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?!

DID YOU PICK A MODEL FOR THE CULTURE FESTIVAL YET?

WELL, YOU'RE—

like a flash of lightning,

SHOUKO?!

In that split second,

I found her.

GODDESS!

My...

EXCUSE ME!

WOULD YOU

BE MY GODDESS ...?!

HEY!

*note: upperclassman

Hm.

—THAT'S YOUR NAME?

HUH?

I'M SORRY. YOU'LL HAVE TO EXCUSE HER—SHE'S A DITZ.

SHOUKO...

Didn't you know?!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! EVERYONE KNOWS FUJINO-SEMPAI* WON'T MODEL FOR ANYONE!!

Gr

C'MON, SHOUKO.

aB!!

ALL RIGHT.

I'LL BE YOUR GODDESS.

SHOUKO.

NICE TO MEET YOU,

GRAH!!!

I DON'T BELIEVE IT!!

I—

...HEY!

zoning out...

YOU'RE NOT EVEN LISTENING, ARE YOU?!!

Chat

IT'S NOT FAIR, SHOUKO!!!

SHE'S LEGENDARY! THEY SAY SHE REFUSED EVEN WHEN THE TOP FASHION STUDENT GOT DOWN ON HER KNEES AND BEGGED HER TO MODEL FOR HER.

THIS IS FUJINO-SEMPAI WE'RE TALKING ABOUT!

ter

I HAVE TO GO NOW...

Skr ink

—...

I

NEED TO GO SEE SEMPAI. I'LL BE BACK!

—I have to hurry.

DASH

...HEY, CLASS IS ABOUT TO—

SHOUKO! SHOU-KOOO?!

SEMPAI!!

HUH...?

.....

SKrCh

SKrCh

SKrCh

SKrCh

SO,

YOU KIDNAP ME AND THEN YOU NEGLECT ME. WHAT'S UP?

SKrCh

GASP!!

piled high

Why you did it.

NEVER MIND THAT. JUST TELL ME.

I— I-I-I-I'M SORRY!! I—

★This is a work of fiction. Any resemblance to actual persons, groups, or events is strictly coincidental.

I NEEDED YOU...

BECAUSE ...

BUT I THOUGHT THE REAL THING MIGHT BE EVEN MORE INSPIRING...

JUST REMEMBERING YOU IS ENOUGH TO GIVE ME IDEAS FOR DESIGNS...

AND ONCE THAT THOUGHT OCCURRED TO ME, I JUST HAD TO ACT ON IT...

YOUR BEAUTY

—!

IS INCREDIBLY CAPTIVATING, SEMPAI...!

ANYWAY!

PFFT

WHAT THE HECK?

YOU MAKE ME SOUND SO IMPRESSIVE!!

I don't think I'll be able to sleep tonight.

New designs are flooding my mind now.

Well, you are.

I just have one question...

Library

WA

WHOA!!

STARE

...

Geez

PILED HIGH

IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE SO PRETTY, SEMPAI.

YOU'RE CERTAINLY FULL OF IDEAS.

WHAT ARE YOU, A FLIRT?!!

?

WHAT?

I WAS JUST WONDERING

WHY YOU SAID YES...

HUH ?!

OH, UM, NOTH-ING...

I HATE SECRETS.

...

A LONG TIME AGO,

You're pretty and you refuse to model for them, so people call you "the pierrot in the sky sempai"

I HEARD YOU MADE THE FASHION DEPARTMENT CRY.

A FRIEND ASKED ME TO MODEL FOR HER, AND I AGREED...

You don't need to think about anything

Just put these clothes on and look pretty okay?

I WAS ANGRY. SO ANGRY.

HEY, WHY ARE YOU—

BECAUSE! BECAUSE—

—WH-

drip drip drip

what?!

I DECIDED I WOULD NEVER MODEL AGAIN.

YOU'RE... YOU'RE

NOT A MANNEQUIN ...!!

IT'S JUST TOO—

THERE'S YOUR ANSWER—

THESE TEARS.

YOUR CLOTHES

I WANT TO WEAR

BECAUSE THEY'LL MAKE ME INTO A GOD-DESS, NOT A DOLL!

God,

God isn't that obliging

please grant me this happiness forever

SHOUKO, BAD NEWS!!

BANG!

I'M BUSY WITH MY DESIGNS RIGHT NOW. I CAN'T—

BUT THIS IS BIG!!

FUJINO-SEMPAI'S DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL...!!

THEY SAY SHE'S PREGNANT...!!

—Yeah, right.

Library

SKRCH SKRCH SKRCH SKRCH

give her a chance...

SNAP!

Just

Calm down.

SKRCH

SKRCH

I SHOULD GO COOL MY HEAD...

SKRRK...

...

clack

SLAM

ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT TO GO SEE HER?
...
SHOUKO, I HEARD TODAY IS SEMPAI'S LAST DAY HERE.
Sempai never came.

A PAGE FLEW ALL THE WAY OVER HERE...

Geez.

OH!

clatter

I'LL GO TAKE CARE OF THE TRASH.

SHOUKO!!!

SORRY I'M NOT PRETTY ANYMORE.

That s not it at all!!

SHOUKO ...?!

That s

Staff Room

It s really not

THANK YOU FOR EVERY-THING.

not true.

SHOUKO...

YOU'RE WRONG!!

when you wear your wedding dress—

WHO'S PITCH BLACK, SEMPAI.

It's because I can't be the one standing up there with you

YOU'RE NOT THE ONE

my chest aches..

YOU'LL ALWAYS BE PRETTY, NO MATTER WHAT!

I'M SURE YOUR CHILD

WILL BE PRETTY LIKE A GODDESS, TOO...!!

—But...

whip

AND

YOU'RE THE BEST, SHOUKO!

...

...Y'KNOW,

I'M

HONORED THAT YOU CALLED ME A GODDESS.

YEAH!!

I'll treasure these feelings forever...

and the only designs I can come up with are all for her, too.

When the Baby's born, you'll be the first to see it!!

I designed that dress just for Sempai and her child,

Well,

But you worked so hard on your designs!!

YOU'RE WITHDRAWING FROM THE CULTURE FESTIVAL?!

UH-HUH.

But I think I would like to create dresses again

if I ever find a goddess to surpass Sempai.

I bet that won't be for a long while, though.

Bitter Seek ★ END

Edited by:
Sachiko

Translated by:
Sailor Avalon

QC'ed by:
The Lory, SpaceTart, Sailor Avalon, and Tiny Snowfairy

Special Thanks: yy

A Lililicious Project
http://lililicious.net
#lililicious@irc.rizon.net

Bitter Seek

Lilicious~may its fragrance encompass you
#lilicious@irc.rizon.net, http://lilicious.net

男子禁制!! 少女と少女のヒミツの純愛コミック

本体880円(税込)

Yuri Time Selection

百合姫

COVER ILLUSTRATION
影木栄貴

姉妹のように ピュアな関係

及川じんこ

あの名作百合作品が帰ってきた!!

日輪早夜
テクノサマタ
速瀬羽柴

紺野キタ

榛本夏夜
さかざき咲羅

乙ひより
城之内栗々
南方純
森島明子
椅田めら

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